

	ACOUSTIC GUN SHOT DETECTION (AGSD) SYSTEMS	Operations Order 5.10.00
	PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT	New 01/31/24 PAGE 1

1. **PURPOSE** - To establish guidelines for the deployment, implementation, and application of Acoustic Gun Shot Detection (AGSD) systems to include the secondary release of AGSD data and criteria for related training.
2. **SCOPE** – AGSD may be used as an investigative resource by investigators in firearms-related offenses where a shot is fired. This policy outlines the response and use of this information from an investigative standpoint.
3. **Acoustic Gun Shot Detection (AGSD) System Investigations**

A. Definitions

(1) Acoustic Gun Shot Detection (AGSD) System	A system consisting of a series of acoustic sensors installed over a given area aimed at detecting, deciphering, and recording the acoustic report of a discharged firearm. The captured audio is then used to triangulate, detect and geospatially locate where the sound originated in real time.
(2) Gunshot	The acoustic report of a discharged firearm
(3) AGSD Sensor	Acoustic Sensor placed in a specific area that is activated by the acoustic report of a discharged firearm (gunshot/gunfire); the device remains dormant until activated, at which point a 20-second recording of the event is created – five seconds prior to the activation of the activation and 15 seconds following the event. Each Sensor is self-sustained and mobile.

B. AGSD Equipment

- (1) AGSD sensors are comprised of an acoustic recording device and a transmitting device that notifies investigators of a gunshot being fired; this equipment should be placed at locations affected by violent crime, firearms offenses, and critical incidents.
- (2) AGSD sensors will be installed solely by individuals trained in the installation of AGSD hardware.

C. AGSD Sensors will be used for the Following Purposes:

- 1) Public Safety – AGSD technology allows real-time acoustic detection of gunshots and can direct law enforcement to areas where a shot was fired and may be in need of an immediate public safety response and will assist in solving crimes by reducing response times and directing officers towards active gunfire.
- (2) Deterrent – Provide real-time information to first responders when an incident involving a gunshot occurs.
- (3) Support – In areas equipped with AGSD technology, approved operators will provide immediate actionable information regarding shots fired to responding officers.
- (4) Investigative Follow-Up – Criminal incidents audibly captured by operators will be utilized to enhance and further investigations.

D. Deployment Authorization:

- (1) The Department will carefully consider the placement of AGSD sensors, considering the public's desire for increased security in high-crime areas where there is a greater likelihood of gun-related violence.

	ACOUSTIC GUN SHOT DETECTION (AGSD) SYSTEMS	Operations Order 5.10.00
	PHOENIX POLICE DEPARTMENT	New 01/31/24 PAGE 2

1. D. (2) All AGSD sensor placements will be approved by a Crime Gun Intelligence Unit (CGIU) or Homeland Defense Bureau (HDB) supervisor.
- (3) For additional details about the placement, installation, and maintenance of AGSD sensors, please refer to the VCB bureau manual.

E. Logistics and Considerations:

- (1) AGSD sensors will only be deployed in areas of public access and in an elevated position.
 - An AGSD notification will solely contain a recording of the gunshot/s and a short amount of time before and after the shot/s.
 - Live audio will not be monitored via an AGSD sensor.
- (2) The duration of an AGSD audio recording, upon alert, is standardized by the vendor; A request for audio outside of the standardized recording period can only be requested/authorized with the approval of the VCB Commander or their designee.
- (3) All control and monitoring of AGSD technology will be conducted in a professional, ethical, and legal manner.

NOTE: System operators shall place, control, and monitor the system based on incident descriptions and observed actions or behaviors. AGSD alerts alone do not solely constitute probable cause or reasonable suspicion - a stop/detention should only be conducted once officers have established probable cause or reasonable suspicion based upon the totality of the circumstances.

F. Records Retention and Storage:

- (1) AGSD Data is maintained and retained by the contracted AGSD system provider.
- (2) If AGSD data is believed to be of evidentiary value or is related to an investigation, this data should be obtained and stored within a Department data system/storage location and documented within an IR.
- (3) Access to AGSD data is for employees only and is intended for criminal justice purposes only. Secondary dissemination of AGSD data outside of a criminal justice purpose requires approval from the CGIU Lieutenant.
- (4) For details regarding the documentation process/retention methods of AGSD information, please view the VCB Bureau manual.
- (5) Inquiries from the public will be handled in accordance with [Operations Order 5.5.00, Release of Records](#).

Last Organizational Review: